Partial Translation of Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication (Kokai) No. 3-233751

Title of the Invention:

MULTI-FUNCTION TERMINAL CENTRALIZED CONTROL SYSTEM

having a collection/accumulation unit for data used by a MECEIVED multi-function terminal when said terminal is used as a personal computer for collecting and accumulating types of 1 1 2001 personal computer processing carried out by said terminal computer times when the use of said terminal as a personal computer starts and ends, the lengths of time spent using said terminal as a personal computer and the number of pieces of data so processed by said terminal as a personal computer, a data concentrator for concentrating collected and accumulated data which has been used by said terminal as a personal computer to a central computer, and a personal computer function utilization status control table outputting unit for editing and outputting concentrated data which has been used by said terminal as a personal computer, whereby the utilization status of a number of groups of multi-function terminals installed in wide areas is centrally controlled by said central computer.

Detailed Description of the Invention: (Industrial Field of Utilization)

The present invention relates to a multi-function terminal centralized control system for a system in which multi-function terminals having a personal computer function as part of the functions thereof are used as terminals for an online system in which the utilization status of the multi-function terminals as a personal computer is centrally controlled by a central computer.

(Prior Art)

The utilization status of multi-function terminals when the terminals are being used as an online terminal can be unitarily centrally controlled by a host computer as the multi-function terminals so functioning are used in conjunction with the host computer. On the other hand, however, the utilization status of the multi-function terminals when they are being used as personal computers cannot be unitarily centrally controlled by the host computer as the multi-function terminals so functioning are not used in conjunction with the host computer. Therefore, in order to control the utilization status of the multi-function terminals as personal computers, the utilization status of a multi-function terminal as a personal computer has to be recorded on a sheet of recording paper for manual accumulation. (Problem that the Invention is to Solve)

In the aforesaid conventional system, in a case where there a large number of multi-function terminals to be controlled or where there are a large number of types of multi-function terminals, the manual accumulation becomes complicated and troublesome, a tremendous amount of time is required to grasp how the multi-function terminals are used, and the accuracy of information on the control of the terminals so obtained tends to lack reliability.

Consequently, the conventional system provides a disadvantage that the utilization status of the multi-function terminals cannot accurately be controlled.

(Means for Solving the Problem)

According to the invention, there is provided a multifunction terminal centralized control system having a
collection/accumulation unit for data used by a multi-function
terminal when the terminal is used as a personal computer for
collecting and accumulating types of personal computer
processing carried out by the terminal, times when the use of
the terminal as a personal computer starts and ends, the
lengths of time spent using the terminal as a personal
computer and the number of pieces of data so processed by the
terminal as a personal computer, a data concentrator for
concentrating collected and accumulated data which has been
used by the terminal as a personal computer to a central

computer, and a personal computer function utilization status control table outputting unit for editing and outputting concentrated data which has been used by the terminal as a personal computer, whereby the utilization status of a number of groups of multi-function terminals installed in wide areas is centrally controlled by the central computer.

(Embodiment)

Fig. 1 is an explanatory diagram showing an embodiment of the invention. In the figure, a central host computer system 1 of an online system is connected to a multi-function terminal 9 installed in each location via a communication path 7.

The host computer system 1 has an online controller 2 for enabling online processing with multi-function terminals, an editor 3 for editing the utilization status of the multi-function terminals as a personal computer on a control table, an outputting device 4 for outputting a control table, a memory 6 for accumulating data on the utilization status of the multi-function terminals as a personal computer concentrated from groups of the multi-function terminals, and a central computer side concentration processor 5.

In the multi-function terminal 9, a collector 14 collects types of personal computer processing executed at a personal computer processor 13, times when the use of the terminal as a personal computer starts and ends, time spent using the terminal as a personal computer and the number of pieces of data so processed from an interface with a terminal controller 15 and records them in a memory 12. A concentration directive input device 10 inputs a directive to direct accumulated data on the utilization status of the terminal as a personal computer accumulated in the memory 12 from the multi-function terminal side to the central computer side via a terminal side concentration processor 11.

Here, the "collection/accumulation unit for data used by a multi-function terminal when the terminal is used as a personal computer" stated in the Claim corresponds to the data collector 14 and the memory 12, the "data concentration device" corresponds to the concentration directive input device 10, the terminal side concentration processor 11, the communication path 7, the central computer side concentration processor 5, the memory 6 and the online controller 2, and the "personal computer function utilization status control table outputting unit" corresponds to the editor 13 and the outputting device 14.

The personal computer processor 13 is a job space where programs that can be executed solely by the multi-function terminal when it is used as a personal computer can be operated which programs include a word processor program, a spreadsheet program, a file processing program and a basic program, and the execution control is carried out at the terminal controller 15. The data collector 14 requests the terminal controller 15 to inform the collector of the name of a program that is executed at the personal computer processor 13, times when the program is activated and completed and the number of pieces of data processed, and receives values for the requested information every time a program is executed for record in the memory 12. Then, the data collector 14 repeats this operation until a concentration directive is inputted from the concentration directive input device 10.

When a concentration directive is inputted from the concentration directive input device 10, the terminal side concentration processor 11 is activated, and a communication session with the central computer side concentration processor 5 is established via the communication path 7. Following this, the terminal side concentration processor 11 accesses the memory 12 to obtain a period of time spent collecting the data on the utilization status of the terminal as a personal computer and the number of pieces of the data, which are both accumulated in the memory 12, and notifies the central computer side concentration processor 5 of the information so obtained.

The central computer side concentration processor 5

secures a write area for the memory 6 and indicates to the terminal side concentration processor 11 that concentration can be executed. Having received the answer, the terminal side concentration processor 11 reads sequentially the data on the utilization status of the terminal as a personal computer accumulated in the memory 12 and send it to the central computer side concentration processor 5. Furthermore, having completed sending the data, the terminal side concentration processor 11 deletes the concentrated data on the utilization status of the terminal as a personal computer in the memory 12 and prepares itself for another collection of data on the utilization status of the terminal as a personal computer.

The central computer side concentration processor 5 needs to communicate with a number of multi-function terminals, and when considering the whole central computer system, communications for processing online business are mixed therein. The online controller 2 controls such communications, and the central computer side concentration processor 5 executes processing under the control of the online controller 2.

The data on the utilization status of a number of groups of multi-function terminals as a personal computer so concentrated is stored in the memory as a relational type data base. Then, a personal computer function utilization status control editing program installed in the editor 3 edits the data on the utilization status of the multi-function terminals as a personal computer accumulated in the memory 6 for output to the outputting device 4.

Reference numeral 8 denotes the flow of the aforesaid data on the utilization status of the multi-function terminal as a personal computer.

(Effectiveness of the Invention)

As has been described heretofore, according to the invention, since the utilization status of the multi-function terminal as a personal computer can be mechanically grasped without involvement of manual processing, the data on the

utilization status of the terminal as a personal computer can be concentrated at the central computer with the simple operation, and even a control table can be prepared. Consequently, the invention is advantageous in that reliable data on the utilization status of the multi-function terminal as a personal computer can be obtained within a short period of time.

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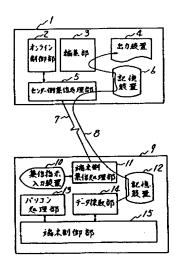
(54) INTEGRATED CONTROL SYSTEM FOR MULTI-FUNCTION TERMINAL

(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To accurately control the using state of a multi-function terminal by providing a personal computer application data collecting/accumulating device, a data concentration device, and a personal computer using state control table output device.

CONSTITUTION: When a multi-function terminal 9 is used as a personal computer, a personal computer application data collecting/accumulating device 14 and a storage 12 are provided to collect and accumulate the personal computer processing types, the personal computer application start/end time points, the personal computer using time, the number of processing data items, etc. The data concentration devices 10, 11, 5-7 and 2 are added to concentrate those collected and accumulated personal computer application data to a center electronic computer 1 together with the personal computer using state control table output devices 3 and 4 which edit and output the concentrated personal computer application data. Thus the computer 1 performs the unitary control of these data. Then it is possible to mechanically grasp the using condition of the terminal 9 serving as a personal computer with no intervention of the man power and with high reliability.

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発明の名称

多機能端末集中管理方式

特許請求の範囲

発明の詳細な説明

〔産業上の利用分野〕

本発明はオンラインシステムの端末としてパソコン機能を合せ持つ多機能端末を利用したシステムにおいて、その多機能端末のパソコン機能使用状況をセンター電子計算機で一元管理する多機能端末集中管理方式に関する。

〔従来の技術〕

多機能端末をオンライン端末として使用しているときの使用状況は多機能端末がホスト電子製機と連携して使用されるため、多機能端末スト電子型出来るが、多機形況はいるときの使用して使用してがあると連携して発生しています。これを管理するためによい。したソコンとして使用した実績を配めているという。したソコンを開した実績を配めているという。

(発明が解決しようとする課題)

上述した従来の方式は、管理する多機能端末が 多数に及ぶ場合および多機能端末毎の種類が多数 に及ぶ場合、人手による集計が煩雑になり使用状 況把握までに多大の時間を要し、その管理情報の精度は信頼性の乏しいものになる。したがって、 多機能竭末の使用状況を正確に管理出来なくなる という欠点がある。

〔課題を解決するための手段〕

〔寒麓例〕

第1図は本発明の一実施例を示す説明図である。同図においてオンラインシステムのセンターホスト電子計算機システム1は、各所に設置され

指示入力装置10と端末側集信処理部11と通信路7とセンター側集信処理部5と記憶装置6とオンライン制御部2であり、「パソコン使用状況管理表出力装置」は編集部3と出力装置4である。

集信指示入力装置10から集信指示が入力されると、増末傾集信処理部11は起動され、通信路7を用いてセンター関集信処理部5との通信セッ

ている多機能端末9と通信路7で結ばれている。 ホスト電子計算機システム1は、多機能端末と オンライン処理を行なうときのオンライン制御部 2と、多機能端末のパソコン使用状況を管理表に 編集する編集部3と、管理表の出力装置4と、オ ンラインで接続されている多機能端末群から集信 したパソコン使用状況データを累積する記憶装置 6と、センター側集信処理部5とを有する。

また、多機能端末9において採取部14はバソコン処理部13で実行されるバソコン処理の種類、使用開始時刻、使用終了時刻、使用時間及び処理データ件数を増末制御部15とのインターフェースにより採取し、記憶装置12へ記録する。集信指示入力装置10は増末側集信処理部11を介して多機能端末側から記憶装置12に累積されているパソコン使用状況データをセンタ側へ送信する指示を入力する。

ここで、特許請求の範囲で述べた「パソコン使用データ採取・累積装置」はデータ採取部14と記憶装置12であり、「データ集信装置」は集信

ションを確立する。続いて端末側集信処理部11は記憶装置12にアクセスし、記憶装置12に累積されているパソコン使用状況データの採取期間と件数を取得し、センター側集信処理部5へ通知する。

センター関集信処理部5は記憶装置6の書き込みエリアを確保し、端末関集信処理部111 はこの回答を受けて順次に記憶装置12に累積されているパソコン使用状況データを読み込みせ、ター関集信処理部5へ送信する。さらに端末関集信処理部11は送信が完了すると記憶装置12の集信済みパソコン使用状況データ採取の準備をしておく、パソコン使用状況データ採取の準備をしておく、

ところでセンター側集信処理部5は多数の多機能場末と通信する必要があり、センター電子計算機システム全体から見ればオンライン業務処理用の通信も混在している。これらを制御しているのがオンライン制御部2であり、センター側集信処理部5はオンライン制御部2配下で制御を受け処

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理を実行している。

このようにして集信された多数の多機能端末群のパソコン使用状況データは記憶装置6にリレーショナル型データベースとして格納される。そして編集部3へ実装されるパソコン使用状況管理編集プログラムが記憶装置6内のパソコン使用状況データを編集し、出力装置4へ出力する。

8は上記のパソコン使用状況データの流れを示す。

〔発明の効果〕

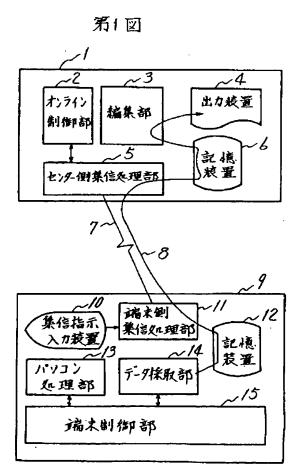
以上説明したように、本発明は多機能端末をパソコンとして使用した場合の使用状況を人手を介さずに機械的に把握できるので、簡単な操作で使用状況データをセンターに集め管理表まで作成できる。したがって信頼性のある多機能端末の使用状況を短時間に得られる効果がある。

図面の簡単な説明

第1図は本発明の一実施例を示す説明図である。

1 … センター電子計算機システム、 2 … オンライン制御部、 3 … 編集部、 4 … 出力装置、 5 … センター関集信処理部、 6 、 1 2 … 記憶装置、 7 … 通信路、 9 … 多機能端末、 1 0 … 集信指示入力装置、 1 1 … 端末関集信処理部、 1 3 … パソコン処理部、 1 4 … データ採取部、 1 5 … 端末制御部・

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